Amendments to the claims:

1. (Currently amended) A ferrule, comprising:

a molded ferrule body including a molded end face and defining a plurality of bores extending through the ferrule body for receiving end portions of respective optical fibers, the ferrule body further defining at least one opening through the molded end face adapted to receive an alignment member for aligning the end portions of the respective optical fibers with corresponding end portions of optical fibers of a mating ferrule, the opening defining a longitudinal axis extending at least partially through the ferrule body; and

wherein the ferrule body has an integrally formed geometry feature not located on a bumper of the ferrule body that defines a reference plane for determining the angularity of a plane defined by the molded end face.

2. (Previously presented) The ferrule of claim 1, wherein the geometry feature is selected from the group consisting of a geometric reference feature, a reference datum, a measurement datum, a polishing angle, and the molded end face, wherein the molded end face comprises a first surface and a second surface, and wherein the first surface is normal to the longitudinal axis defined by the opening and the second surface is disposed at a predetermined angle relative to the first surface and the longitudinal axis.

3. (Canceled).

4. (Currently amended) A ferrule, comprising:

a molded ferrule body including a molded end face and defining a plurality of bores extending through the ferrule body for receiving end portions of respective optical fibers, the ferrule body further defining at least one opening through the molded end face adapted to receive an alignment member for aligning the end portions of the respective optical fibers with corresponding end portions of optical fibers of a mating ferrule, the opening defining a longitudinal axis extending at least partially through the ferrule body, the ferrule body further defining a molded geometric reference feature on an exterior surface of the ferrule body; and

wherein the molded geometric reference feature is not located on a bumper of the ferrule body;

wherein the molded end face is not machined subsequent to molding the ferrule body; and

wherein the geometric reference feature eliminates the need for using a truncated precision measurement pin to determine the angularity of a plane defined by a region of interest on the molded end face of the ferrule body.

5-6. (Canceled).

7. (Previously presented) The ferrule of claim 4, wherein the geometric reference feature is recessed on the ferrule body relative to the molded end face.

8. (Previously presented) The ferrule of claim 4, wherein the geometric reference feature protrudes from the molded end face.

9. (Previously presented) The ferrule of claim 4, wherein the geometric reference feature is disposed within the at least one opening.

10. (Previously presented) The ferrule of claim 4, wherein the geometric reference feature is accessible for making visual measurements when the alignment member is received within the opening through the molded end face without the use of an interferometer having 3D capabilities.

11. (Previously presented) The ferrule of claim 4, wherein the geometric reference feature is not altered throughout the useful life of the ferrule.

12. (Currently amended) A multifiber ferrule for a fiber optic connector, the ferrule comprising:

a molded ferrule body including a molded end face comprising a molded first surface defining a first plane that is generally normal to a longitudinal axis of the ferrule body, and a molded second surface defining a second plane disposed at a predetermined angle relative to the molded first surface and the longitudinal axis of the ferrule body, the ferrule body further

defining a plurality of bores extending through the ferrule body for receiving end portions of respective optical fibers, the ferrule body further defining at least one opening through the molded end face adapted to receive an alignment member for aligning the end portions of the respective optical fibers with corresponding end portions of optical fibers of a mating multifiber ferrule; and

a molded geometric reference feature not located on a bumper of the ferrule body for eliminating the need for using a truncated precision measurement pin to determine the angularity of a plane defined by a region of interest on the molded end face of the ferrule body; and

wherein the molded end face is not machined subsequent to molding the ferrule body.

13. (Canceled).

14. (Currently amended) A method for determining the angularity of a plane defined by at least a portion of an end face of a ferrule, comprising:

providing a ferrule having a ferrule body, an end face and a geometric reference feature on an exterior surface of the ferrule body proximate the end face and integral with the ferrule body and not located on a bumper of the ferrule; and

comparing a reference plane defined by the geometric reference feature and the plane defined by the at least a portion of the end face of the ferrule to determine relative angularity between the reference plane defined by the geometric reference feature and the plane defined by the at least a portion of the end face of the ferrule.

15. (Previously presented) The method of claim 14, wherein the geometric reference feature is accessible during the comparing step for making visual comparisons without the use of an interferometer having 3D capabilities.

16. (Previously presented) The method of claim 14, wherein the comparing step eliminates the need for using a truncated precision measurement pin to determine the end face angle of the ferrule.

17. (Currently amended) A method of forming a ferrule, comprising:

molding a ferrule body comprising an end face and defining a plurality of bores extending through the ferrule body for receiving end portions of respective optical fibers, the ferrule body also defining at least one opening through the end face adapted to receive a guide pin for aligning the end portions of the respective optical fibers with corresponding end portions of optical fibers of a mating ferrule, the opening defining a longitudinal axis extending at least partially through the ferrule body; and

wherein the ferrule body comprises a geometry feature on an exterior surface of the ferrule body not located on a bumper of the ferrule that is formed by molding and is not subsequently machined.

18. (Previously presented) The method of claim 17 wherein the geometry feature is accessible for making visual measurements without the use of an interferometer having 3D capabilities, thereby eliminating the need for using a truncated precision measurement pin to determine the angularity of at least a portion of the end face of the ferrule.

19. (Previously presented) The method of claim 17, wherein the geometry feature is selected from the group consisting of a geometric reference feature, a reference datum, a measurement datum, a polishing angle, and an end face comprising a first surface and a second surface, wherein the first surface is generally normal to the longitudinal axis and the second surface is disposed at a predetermined angle relative to the first surface and the longitudinal axis.

20-23. (Canceled).